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FOIA Case 09162019S208

September 27, 2019

Austin R. Evers Christine H. Monahan American Oversight 1030 15<sup>th</sup> St., NW, Suite B255 Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Evers and Ms. Monahan:

This letter is the final response to your September 16, 2019, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for all communications between the National Rifle Association and SAMHSA officials, specifically Elinor McCance-Katz, Daryl Kade, Anita Everett, Jean Bennett, Michael King, Jeffrey Coade, Karen Hearod, and Emily Williams, along with other staff members.

SAMHSA has no record of any such communications. Therefore, we our closing our file on this. There will be no charges in this instance because the billable costs are less than our threshold of \$25.

You may appeal this finding. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision. Your appeal must be mailed within 90 days from the date of receipt of this letter, to:

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
Agency Chief FOIA Officer
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 729H
Washington, DC 20201
foiarequest@psc.hhs.gov

Please clearly mark both the envelope and your letter "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact the SAMHSA FOIA Officer OR the HHS FOIA Public Liaison for assistance at:

HHS FOIA Public Liaison
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.; Room 729H
Washington, DC 20201
Telephone: (202) 260-0793; E-mail: HHS FOIA Public Liaison@hhs.gov

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road–OGIS College Park, MD 20740-6001 Telephone: 202-741-5770; Toll-Free: 1-877-684-6448

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov; Fax: 202-741-5769

Respectfully,

Siobhan Dugan FOIA Officer